

# **EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**East Providence City Hall**

**145 Taunton Avenue**

**East Providence, Rhode Island 02914**

**November 8, 2005**

## **Open Session**

**Mr. Gouveia, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. All members were present: Robert Faria, Eileen Lovett, David Medeiros, Mildred Morris, and Antone Gouveia. Also present: Mr. Manuel Vinhateiro, Superintendent of Schools and Andrew Thomas, Esq.**

**A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to move to Executive Session in accordance with RI General Laws, Section 42-46-5 (a) (1) Personnel, (a) (2) Litigation, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**The School Committee reconvened the Public Session at 7:30 PM. A motion was made by Mrs. Lovett to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0. A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to seal the minutes of the Executive Session, seconded by Mrs. Morris. Vote 5-0.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Faria and a Moment of Silence was observed.**

**Record of Previous Meetings – A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2005 meeting, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

### **Chair's Report**

**Mr. Gouveia thanked Mrs. Lovett and Mr. Medeiros for organizing the Townie Parade Celebration; parents and kids had a great time at this well planned event. Mrs. Lovett added that the event became bigger than imagined and she thanked everyone who participated in the planning: David Medeiros, Eileen Palenchar, Patti Streit. Mrs. Lovett related that family involvement is alive and well in East Providence. David Medeiros thanked parents, staff, community members and the Superintendent for reinforcing Townie Pride and a sense of pride in the community. The collection of books and canned goods was also a huge success.**

**Student Liaison, John Butler, provided a report on school events; the school year began very successfully; he mentioned some of the changes in place including a new attendance procedure and new graduation requirements which are now in place.**

**Mr. Faria acknowledged Pawtucket Credit Union for their \$1500 donation to Kent Heights School.**

**Hearings - None**

**Reading of Communications - None**

**Report of Superintendent and Staff**

**Showcase of Schools – East Providence High School – Mr. Edward Daft, Principal of East Providence High School presented a video showcasing East Providence High School. He thanked Rob Perry and Chris Carlotti for their help in organizing the presentation. Mr. Vinhateiro congratulated Mr. Daft and his staff for doing a great job and also thanked Rob & Chris for their assistance. School Committee Members expressed thanks to all.**

**FY 2004-05 Budget Update/Monthly Financial Statement – Dr. Hilton presented the report. Motion by Mrs. Morris to accept the report, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**Personnel Recommendations**

## **APPOINTMENTS**

**Jennifer Barsamian    Elementary Art Teacher (1 year only)**

**Leslie Eastwood    Assistant Coach, Girls' Indoor Track, SHS**

**Leslie Eastwood    Assistant Coach, Girls' Outdoor Track, SHS**

**Scott Brown    Assistant Coach, Freshman Football, SHS**

**Rinda Foster     Advisor, Gay/Straight Alliance, SHS**  
**John Gendron     Girls' Basketball, RMS (1 year only)**  
**Kathleen Bickford     Safety Patrol Coordinator, Oldham School**  
**Priscilla Sousa     Head Teacher, Whiteknact School**  
**Motion: Morris/Second: Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

## **RETIREMENT**

**Ellen Mara (16 years)     Librarian – Kent Heights/Oldham**  
**Close of 2005-2006 School Year**  
**Robert Picerelli (28 years)     Physical Education Teacher, SHS**  
**Close of 2005-2006 School Year**  
**Raymond Stachelek (29 years)     Technology Teacher, RMS**  
**Close of 2005-2006 School Year**  
**Barbara Traverse (21 years)     Grade 5 Teacher, M.J. Francis School**  
**Close of 2005-2006 School Year**  
**Motion: Morris/Second: Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

## **RESIGNATION**

**Lucia Earle     Head Teacher**  
**Effective immediately**  
**Motion: Morris/Second: Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

## **FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (MATERNITY)**

**Rachael DeCosta    Grade 5 Teacher, Orlo Avenue School**

**Approx. January 27, 2006**

**Motion: Morris/Second: Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**Facilities Update - Mr. Harry Mutter, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported the following:**

**Repair work on the bricks at Watters school was completed in September; Boiler #1 repairs at the High School have been completed; New lights were installed in all classrooms at Orlo Avenue School; Cement work has been finished on two walkways (corner of Progress and Silver Spring Streets and in front of the school); Tree work continues near the fences at the ball field at Riverside Middle School.**

**Mr. Vinhateiro reported that Mr. Mutter and Mr. Souza are exploring possibilities with RISE to make recommendations for replacement of the high school boiler, which has reached its life expectancy and will need to be replaced; possibly capitalized over time through the energy phase. Mr. Gouveia said the master plan of the City has the high school two years out, but this should be a capital priority. If the boilers go down, it would be difficult to find a re-location for 2000 students.**

**Field Trip Requests**

**Martin Middle School requested approval of the following field trips: Two Day Ski Trips to Mount Sunapee (one would be held on a Saturday in January and another on a Saturday in February (weather permitting) and the 4th Annual 8th Grade Adventure Bound Trip to Bromley Mountain in Vermont and Crab Apple Water Rafting along the Deerfield River in Massachusetts. This trip will be held on Wednesday, June 7th and Thursday, June 8th, 2006.**

**Mrs. Morris requested information about the number of chaperones. Ms. Shani Wallace, Vice Principal, was present to answer questions and explained that there will be three to four chaperones in the lodge and three to four more chaperones on the slopes and parents will also be present. On the June field trip there are twenty chaperones and twenty parents in attendance. Mrs. Lovett felt that these trips have always been well organized. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to approve, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**Mr. Vinhateiro explained that he cannot recommend approval of a request from the high school for permission for students to travel to France from June 21-30, 2005; he does not feel comfortable allowing students to leave US territory at this time. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0. After further discussion, an amendment was made to the motion to include all foreign travel (including Mexico and Canada) through the end of this school year. All agreed with this amendment.**

## **Report of Sub-Committees**

**Wellness Committee – Mrs. Morris reported that she attended the “Kids First” Breakfast Meeting meeting on September 29th and that more physical activity is recommended for students along with continued efforts to provide healthy drinks, snacks and food for students.**

**Update on Family Involvement Committee – Mrs. Lovett reported that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on November 29. The High School report presented at this meeting was a recommendation from this committee to showcase one of our schools each month at School Committee meetings. Riverside Middle School will be highlighted at the December meeting. A RI Parent Network grant will sponsor a workshop in January addressing technology and what parents can do to help.**

**Unfinished Business - None**

**New Business – Mr. Vinhateiro explained that the only change in Policy IV.D.5. Academic Inventories is the availability of grades during the first and second semester rather than at the end of the year. A motion was made for first passage by Mrs. Morris, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Mr. Gouveia asked what the School Committee would do with this information once they receive it. Mrs. Morris said**

that she had received complaints in the past and she felt the School Committee needed to have this information. Mr. Gouveia said he would support it, but would like an opinion from the attorney if the School Committee should be involved in this, because the Superintendent would be the one to act on it. Mr. Vinhateiro said this has been a policy for quite some time. Mr. Gouveia wanted to be sure before he votes on this that the School Committee is not overstepping its bounds. Vote 5-0 for first passage.

### **Payment of Bills**

**Warrant #000607 10/26/05 \$578,149.24**

**Motion: Morris/Second: Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**Warrant #000609 10/27/05 \$421,849.08**

**Motion: Faria/Second: Morris. Vote 5-0.**

### **Question and Answer Period**

At the next meeting, Mr. Faria would like to discuss the issue of sexual predators living in the community and what action the School Department can take.



**A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to adjourn at 8:40PM, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia A. Iannelli, Executive Secretary**

**David A. Medeiros, Clerk of the Comittee**